

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 1-19 and add new claims 20-22 as shown in the following listing of claims, which replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor ~~comprising: operating, by vibration of a vibrating body having a piezoelectric element, a contact member or the vibrating body itself, comprising:~~

a vibrating body for undergoing vibrational movement in accordance with a vibration wave;

a contact member disposed in contact with and driven by the vibrating body during vibration thereof;

a support member supporting which engages with the vibrating body in the vicinity of a vibration node of the vibration wave; and position of node of vibration exited by the vibrating body, and which supports the vibrating body while regulating a motion of the vibrating body in a direction other than a contact direction between the vibrating body and the contact member,

a contact member contacting with the vibrating body or a friction member provided in the vibrating body, and

a pressurization means for applying pressure to the support member along a pressurization axis to maintain the vibrating body in pressure contact with the contact member so

that during vibration of the vibrating body, the support member regulates movement of the vibrating body in a direction of rotation about the pressurization axis. ~~pressurizing between the vibrating body and the contact member.~~

2. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor comprising:

a vibrating body for undergoing vibrational movement in accordance with a vibration wave, the vibrating body having a plurality of concave portions;

a contact member disposed in contact with and driven by the vibrating body during vibration thereof;

a support member supporting the vibrating body in the vicinity of a vibration node of the vibration wave, the support member having a plurality of convex portions engaging respective concave portions of the vibrating body; and

pressurization means for applying pressure to the support member along a pressurization axis to maintain the vibrating body in pressure contact with the contact member so that during vibration of the vibrating body, the support member regulates movement of the vibrating body in directions other than a direction of the pressurization axis.

~~according to claim 1, further comprising plural concave portions provided in the vibrating body, and a support member having plural convex portions engaging with the concave portions.~~

3. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor
comprising:

a vibrating body for undergoing vibrational movement
in accordance with a vibration wave, the vibrating body having
a plurality of convex portions;

a contact member disposed in contact with and driven
by the vibrating body during vibration thereof;

a support member supporting the vibrating body in
the vicinity of a vibration node of the vibration wave, the
support member having a plurality of concave portions engaging
respective convex portions of the vibrating body; and

pressurization means for applying pressure to the
support member along a pressurization axis to maintain the
vibrating body in pressure contact with the contact member so
that during vibration of the vibrating body, the support
member regulates movement of the vibrating body in directions
other than a direction of the pressurization axis.

~~according to claim 1, further comprising plural
convex portions provided in the vibrating body, and a support
member having plural concave portions engaging with the convex
portions.~~

4. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor
according to ~~claim 1~~, wherein the claim 1; further comprising
at least one friction member connected to the vibrating body
for vibration therewith and having has a portion extended

extending from the vibrating body; and wherein the contact member is disposed in contact with and driven by the friction member during vibration thereof.

5. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to ~~claim 1, wherein it comprises a support member provided in the vibrating body and extending in a contact direction between the vibrating body and the contact member,~~ and claim 1; further comprising a guide member for guiding the support member along the pressurization axis. ~~member, and a motion in a direction other than a contact direction between a friction member provided in the vibrating body and the contact member is regulated by the support member and the guide member.~~

6. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to ~~claim 1, wherein it comprises a support member provided in the vibrating body and extending in a contact direction between the vibrating body and the contact member,~~ a claim 1; further comprising a guide member for guiding the support member along the pressurization axis, and at least one friction member connected to the vibrating body for vibration therewith, the contact member being disposed in contact with and driven by the friction member during vibration thereof; and wherein the pressurization means comprises a spring member for biasing the support member along the pressurization axis

and for restraining rotation of the vibrating body in the direction of rotation about the pressurization axis. member,
~~and a spring member applying a contact pressure between the vibrating body and the contact member,~~

~~the friction member provided in the vibrating body and the contact member are guided by the support member and the guide member so as to be movable in a contact direction, and~~

~~a rotation of the vibrating body about the support member is constrained by the spring member and a spring guide portion engaging with the spring member.~~

7. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 1; further comprising a guide member engaging an engagement portion of the support member for guiding the support member along the pressurization axis; and at least one friction member connected to the vibrating body for vibration therewith, the contact member being disposed in contact with and driven by the friction member during vibration thereof. ~~claim 1, wherein it comprises a guide portion provided in the vibrating body, and a support member having an engagement portion engaging with the guide member, and a contact pressure between the vibrating body or a friction member provided in the vibrating body and the contact member is obtained by applying a pressurization force to the support member.~~

8. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 7; ~~wherein elaim 7, wherein the guide member is disposed portion is provided in the vicinity of a vibration node of the vibration wave. a position of node of vibration excited by the vibrating body.~~

9. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 1; wherein the vibrating body has extension portions extending from side portions of the vibrating body; and wherein the support member engages the extension portions of the vibrating body. ~~elaim 1, wherein a contact pressure between the friction member and the contact member is obtained by pressurizing an extending portion provided in the vibrating body by means of the support member, the extending portion engages with the support member and performs a rotation with a center line of the extending portion being made a rotation center, and an engagement portion between the extending portion and the support member has a shape regulating an operation other than the rotation operation.~~

10. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 1; further comprising a plurality of friction members connected to the vibrating body for vibration therewith, the contact member being disposed in contact with and driven by the friction members during vibration thereof; wherein the ~~elaim 1, wherein a pressurization means includes~~

means for applying pressure to the support member so that a contact pressure between the friction member members and the contact member acts on plural points in a width direction of the vibrating body, and a shape body; and wherein each of the friction members is curved along member is one at least having a curved line extending in toward the width direction of the vibrating body.

11. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 1; wherein the contact member comprises a movable body, and the pressurization means comprises a spring member for applying a pressurization force to bias the support member along the pressurization axis to bring the movable body into pressure contact with the movable body; and wherein claim 1, wherein it is the piezoelectric motor operating a movable body that is the contact member, the vibrating body is supported for undergoing rotation so as to be rotatable by a rotation shaft provided in the vibrating body, and a contact pressure is applied to the vibrating body and the movable body by a pressurization force from a spring member body.

12. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 11; wherein claim 11, wherein the pressurization force from the spring member applies the pressurization force in the vicinity of a vibration node of the vibration wave. acts to the vicinity of the position of node of vibration exited by the vibrating body.

13. (currently amended) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 11; ~~wherein claim 11, wherein the~~ pressurization force applied by ~~from~~ the spring member generates ~~acts as a torque of~~ in the rotation shaft.

14. (currently amended) An electronic apparatus comprising: a ~~equipment with~~ piezoelectric motor according to claim 1, the contact member comprising a movable body driven by the vibrating body during vibration thereof to undergo movement; claim 1, further comprising a transmission mechanism operating monolithically with a movable body, and an output mechanism for undergoing operation in accordance with movement of the movable body; and a transmission mechanism for transmitting the movement of the movable body to the output mechanism. ~~operating on the basis of an operation of the transmission mechanism.~~

15. (currently amended) An electronic apparatus comprising: a ~~equipment with~~ piezoelectric motor according to claim 7, the contact member comprising a movable body driven by the vibrating body during vibration thereof to undergo movement; claim 7, further comprising a transmission mechanism operating monolithically with a movable body, and an output mechanism for undergoing operation in accordance with movement of the movable body; and a transmission mechanism for transmitting the movement of the movable body to the output

mechanism. operating on the basis of an operation of the transmission mechanism.

16. (currently amended) An electronic apparatus comprising: a equipment with piezoelectric motor according to claim 11, the contact member comprising a movable body driven by the vibrating body during vibration thereof to undergo movement; elaim 11, further comprising a transmission mechanism operating monolithically with a movable body, and an output mechanism for undergoing operation in accordance with movement of the movable body; and a transmission mechanism for transmitting the movement of the movable body to the output mechanism. operating on the basis of an operation of the transmission mechanism.

17. (currently amended) A stage comprising: a having the piezoelectric motor according to claim 1, the contact member comprising a movable body driven by the vibrating body during vibration thereof to undergo movement; elaim 1, further comprising a transmission mechanism operating monolithically with a movable body, and an output mechanism for undergoing operation in accordance with movement of the movable body; and a transmission mechanism for transmitting the movement of the movable body to the output mechanism. operating on the basis of an operation of the transmission mechanism.

18. (currently amended) A stage comprising: a
having the piezoelectric motor according to claim 7, the
contact member comprising a movable body driven by the
vibrating body during vibration thereof to undergo movement;
~~claim 7, further comprising a transmission mechanism operating~~
~~monolithically with a movable body, and an output mechanism~~
for undergoing operation in accordance with movement of the
movable body; and a transmission mechanism for transmitting
the movement of the movable body to the output mechanism.
~~operating on the basis of an operation of the transmission~~
~~mechanism.~~

19. (currently amended) A stage comprising: a
having the piezoelectric motor according to claim 11, the
contact member comprising a movable body driven by the
vibrating body during vibration thereof to undergo movement;
~~claim 11, further comprising a transmission mechanism~~
~~operating monolithically with a movable body, and an output~~
mechanism for undergoing operation in accordance with movement
of the movable body; and a transmission mechanism for
transmitting the movement of the movable body to the output
mechanism. ~~operating on the basis of an operation of the~~
~~transmission mechanism.~~

20. (new) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 1; further comprising a piezoelectric element disposed on the vibrating body for generating a vibration wave to vibrate the vibrating body.

21. (new) A piezoelectric motor comprising:
a vibrating body having one of a plurality of concave portions and a plurality of convex portions;
a piezoelectric element disposed on the vibrating body for generating a vibration wave to vibrate the vibrating body;
a movable body disposed in contact with and driven by the vibrating body during vibration thereof;
a support member supporting the vibrating body in the vicinity of a vibration node of the vibration wave, the support member having the other of the plurality of concave portions and a plurality of convex portions engaging the corresponding respective concave or convex portions of the vibrating body; and
pressurization means for applying pressure to the support member to maintain the vibrating body in pressure contact with the movable body to thereby move the movable body during vibration of the vibrating body.

22. (new) A piezoelectric motor according to claim 21; further comprising a plurality of friction members connected to the vibrating body for vibration therewith; and wherein the movable body is disposed in contact with the frictions members and is driven by the friction members during vibration thereof to undergo movement.